

# Flood Management & Emergency Response Accomplishments

In 2005, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) sounded a call to action with its Flood White Paper. In the following years, DWR has made unprecedented strides towards improving the flood safety of all Californians. When flood emergencies have occurred, DWR has responded quickly and efficiently, protecting lives and property.

## FloodSAFE

In 2006, DWR launched the multi-faceted FloodSAFE initiative to improve public safety through sustainable, integrated flood management. The goals of the program are to reduce the chance of flooding, reduce the consequences of flooding, sustain economic growth, protect and enhance ecosystems, and promote sustainability. Accomplishments under the FloodSAFE initiative include 116 critical levee repairs, 121 proactive levee repairs, \$76 million reimbursed to local agencies for flood management assistance, and improved emergency response capabilities.

## Central Valley Flood Protection Plan

In 2008, the Central Valley Flood Protection act required, among other things, DWR to create a Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP); an integrated flood management plan for the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Flood Management System. The first interim report on the status of the plan is due at the end of 2010 and an iteration of the plan is required by January 2012.

## Early Implementation Program

In 2006, recognizing the importance of flood safety, California voters approved propositions 1E and 84 which provided funds to local agencies for the repair, rehabilitation, reconstruction, or replacement of levees and other flood control facilities and improving or adding facilities to the State Plan of Flood Control to increase levels of flood control for urban areas. The Early Implementation Program (EIP) funds work to be done before the completion of the CVFPP. To date, 8 projects have been funded under the EIP.

## Jones Tract Levee Failure

On June 3, 2004 a breach of the West Levee on Upper Jones Tract Island in the Delta caused flooding of the entire island to an average depth of 12 feet. Recognizing risks to water quality and surrounding levees and roads, DWR emergency response teams worked quickly to repair the breach. The levee breach was closed by the end of the June and Jones Tract was cleared of all water by December.

## 2006 Emergency Repairs

In February 2006, Gov. Schwarzenegger declared a state of emergency for the State's Levee systems. Twenty-four critical erosion sites were designated, to be repaired before the next flood season. With unprecedented level of cooperation and coordination between DWR and our federal partners, repairs that would normally have taken four years took only 11 months. More critical erosion sites were added and a total of 33 sites were repaired by November.

## Delta Emergency Response

The state's fiscal year 2007 budget included \$12 million for early implementation of the Delta Emergency Response plan, and an additional \$68 million was appropriated in 2008 and 2009. These funds were used to help stockpile flood fighting supplies and to support other actions to improve emergency response.



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